



National Park Service  
U.S. Department of the Interior

Glacier National Park  
(A part of Waterton-Glacier  
International Peace Park)

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## Glacier National Park News Release


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For Immediate Release  
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### **Glacier National Park Proposes to Construct a Fire Cache, Radio Equipment Building, and an Addition to the Existing Boat House at St. Mary**

WEST GLACIER, MONT.--Glacier National Park Superintendent Mick Holm announced today that the park proposes to construct a fire cache garage and a building to house the park's radio equipment at St. Mary. The proposed improvements would insure more reliable and effective communication capabilities at St. Mary and improve the park service's ability to respond to fire, search and rescue, and other emergencies. In addition, the park proposes to add on to the existing boat storage building used to store one of Glacier Park Boat Company's passenger boats. This would allow maintenance to be performed while the boat is in storage and would also provide for storage of materials associated with the boat operation.

The St. Mary administrative developed area is on the east side of the park and includes a maintenance area, residential park housing, and administrative offices. The developed area is located adjacent to Divide Creek and is subject to flooding that places lives and property at risk. In 1999 a decision was reached as a result of the General Management Plan planning process to relocate the facilities out of the St. Mary area. Until funding is received to evaluate alternative locations and to design and construct replacement facilities, east side operations will continue to be provided by the facilities at St. Mary. The proposed improvements would support continued operations at St. Mary in the interim period.

An environmental assessment for the proposed improvements is expected to be available for public review and comment in March of 2003. The environmental assessment will analyze the proposals effects on natural and cultural resources and other relevant topics. The EA will also identify guidelines that will be used to evaluate any future actions at St. Mary until such time as the park relocates from the area.



The public is invited to direct concerns or comments about the project to Superintendent, Glacier National Park, West Glacier, Montana 59936 by December 16, Attention: St. Mary EA. Comments may also be sent via e-mail to ([glac\\_project\\_public\\_comment@nps.gov](mailto:glac_project_public_comment@nps.gov)).

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